

LA 61-2666/a

Messrs. Thomas J. Boodell, Roderick Beddow,
Andrew J. Thomas and J. Kirkman Jackson
Birmingham Bar Association
1038 Brown Marx Building
Birmingham 3, Alabama

Dear Messrs. Boodell, Beddow, Thomas and Jackson:

Thank you very much for your letter of 4 April inviting me to address the Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Bar Association on 10 November.

I sincerely regret that I will be unable to accept your kind invitation to participate in this meeting. In view of my official position, it is necessary for me to restrict my speaking engagements to the various government service schools except on a rare occasion when I make an outside address. Unfortunately, I cannot make an additional commitment at this time.

Your courtesy in asking me to join you is indeed appreciated and I am sorry that my reply cannot be more favorable.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

O/DCI/ bak(7 April 61)

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Birmingham Bar Association

1038 Brown Marx Building

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BIRMINGHAM 3, ALABAMA

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April 4, 1961

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Via Air Mail

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

The Regional Meeting Program, of the American Bar Association was inaugurated in 1951 in response to the demand that the program of the ABA be brought within the reach of all members of the profession. Realizing that the lawyers of America need more than the Association's Annual Meeting as a forum, the ABA has adopted the policy of holding two regional meetings each year, embracing widely separated geographical areas.

The Annual Meeting of the ABA is to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, in August 1961; while Regional Meetings are to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, in May 1961, and in Birmingham, Alabama, in November 1961. The Regional Meeting to be held in Birmingham, November 9 - 11, 1961, designated the Southeast Regional Meeting, embraces the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia and Florida. It is anticipated that the attendance thereon will approximate at least seven hundred and fifty lawyers.

The program of the Southeast Regional Meeting will include a banquet on the evening of November 10, 1961. It is anticipated that the attendance thereat will approximate one thousand persons, including lawyers and their wives. It is our desire that the program at the banquet include an address on a subject of timely interest from an outstanding speaker of renown.

It is our opinion that, at the time of the Southeast Regional Meeting, there will be no subject of more universal interest

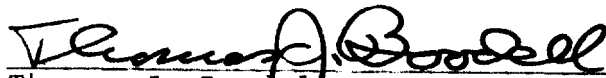
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Via Air Mail
Honorable Allen W. Dulles
April 4, 1961
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to those in attendance thereon than that of Communism. It is our further opinion that those in attendance on said meeting will be vitally interested in hearing you describe the characteristics of Communism; the efforts which are being made to combat the spread thereof; and, particularly, the importance of educating the citizens of our country, both old and young, as to the meaning of Communism. We are, therefore, privileged to extend to you, as the Director, Central Intelligence Agency, a most cordial invitation to make an address at the banquet, to be held on the evening of November 10th, on the subject of Communism.

Trusting that we will receive an early favorable reply from you, we are


Respectfully yours,



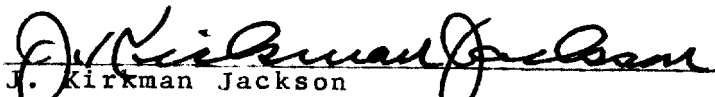
Thomas J. Boodel
Chairman, Regional Meetings Committee, ABA



Roderick Beddow
Co-Chairman, Southeast Regional Meeting, ABA



Andrew J. Thomas
Co-Chairman, Southeast Regional Meeting, ABA



J. Kirkman Jackson
Chairman, Speakers Committee,
Southeast Regional Meeting, ABA

AJT/mwg